

Chance Seeks New Material to Replace Some of the Veteran Yankees

A VALID REASON Little Stories Told About Baseball

By W. A. Phelon

"BASEBALL in Cuba," says Ralph Conte, a sporting writer of Havana, "has been established for many years, and is now as truly a national game of the Cubans as of the states. During the Spanish war, every Cuban regiment carried its baseball equipment—its maces, bats, gloves, and balls—and whenever there was a halfway chance for exercise a game was put under way. Some ball games, too, with the diamonds laid in clearings amid the forests, the athletes in their ragged uniforms, and the ever-present danger of the Spanish foe!

"As a rule, all games played in my own regiment had, as umpire, Col. Pepe Estrampe, considered the greatest individual fighter in Cuba, a man with a tremendous record of slain Spaniards, and about the only available man whose decisions were never questioned by the fiery Cubans. Estrampe's cold eye and fierce face had tremendous power for peace and quietude. If a player had a kick to make he usually sent it in by messenger boy. Pepe Estrampe, the player's figured, might imagine, temporarily, that the kicker was a Spaniard, and nobody cared to increase the colonel's fat record of deceased. So the games went on, Estrampe did all the umpiring, and there was sport every time we stopped in some secluded glade.

"One afternoon, finding a wide, flat clearing in the woods, we hurriedly prepared a diamond and got busy. I was playing right field and Estrampe was umpiring behind the pitcher. It was a great game, too, one that would decide the regimental championship, and the excitement was fairly surging. In the fifth inning, we were in the field, two down, bases full, two and three called on a slugging batter. Gazing in from right field, I was astounded to see the catcher suddenly tear off his mask, turn from the plate, and dash off into the jungle at a full gallop. The batter let out a yowl, and followed the catcher. Then I saw the pitcher make a getaway, and the infield, man after man, streaked it for this nearby vegetation.

"Greatly bewildered, I was staring after them, when I heard the heavy tramp of feet behind me. I looked back—and, advancing from the forest, here came a Spanish regiment, bayonets fixed, advancing grimly and relentlessly! I gazed at them for the millionth part of a minute—and then I broke some speed records as I went away from there.

"Col. Pepe Estrampe still stood behind the pitching hill. He stared for an instant at the advancing Spaniards. Then he looked at the home plate, whence all had fled. Taking off his cap, Col. Estrampe bowed, as by force of habitual courtesy and shouted: 'Ladies and gentlemen! Game called on account of bell!' and oined the fugitives."

Chance's Yankees Lack Confidence

Numerous Weak Spots in Defence Take Fighting Spirit Out of Players—Team to Be Strengthened on Western Trip.

By ALLEN SANGREE

NEW YORK, May 2.—"For they can conquer who believe they can" is an adage put forth many years ago by the Latin poet Virgil, and no doubt there is truth in it. At the same time, if "Husk" Chance had an Evera, a Tinker and a Shuckard, the adage would be a little more applicable just now.

Even well-wishers of the club are chiding it because of an apparent lack of confidence and spirit. Some demand that Chance get out on the coaching line when he is incapacitated from playing and pull his strategies from third or first. That is his business, however. Surely a general with his experience should know best how to play the game.

It is all right to say, "Believe you can conquer and you can," but this David and Goliath stuff does not happen frequently in baseball. With sure work behind the bat the club would have more faith in itself. But there are so many other weak spots in offense and defense that small wonder you get a minimum amount of confidence.

Chase Weak at Bat.

The Athletic outfit here conquered because it believed it could. The rifting in those three games was not occasioned by any means for the A's have 23 blue chips to their credit and the Huskies 18. Hal Chase alone has not been able to get going with the Hudson. He should hit over .200.

The Yanks, now in Detroit, are on a somewhat eventful trip for the re-

SCOOP THE CUB REPORTER



Yes, Indeed, the Boss Was Very "Pail"

By "Hop"



Tesreau's Record Is Upset At Start

Giant Pitcher Who Only Had One Home Run Scored Off Him Last Season Has Already Been Touched For Two Circuit Clouts.

NEW YORK, May 2.—Baseball is full of upsets, as the records show. Prior to the opening of the season fans confidently expected that Big Jeff Tesreau, of the Giants, would start right off the red and pile up a string of consecutive victories. Instead McGraw's mammoth spit baller dropped the opener to the Boston Braves, being driven from the slot while dropping it, and then, on his first appearance in a relief role, allowed the opposition to come from behind and win out.

Tesreau will undoubtedly win a good number of games for the McGrawites this year and possibly may surpass his 1912 record. There is one record made in 1912, however, that he can not possibly equal, even though the season be still in its infancy. That record relates to home runs hit last year, one National league leader made a homer off Big Jeff who worked in 241 innings, equivalent to 27 complete games.

Twirlers For Browns Surprise Fans

Mound Performers for Stovall's Aggregation Have Habit of Showing Burst of Speed Just as the Wise Ones Are Counting Them Out.

By CLARENCE F. LLOYD.

ST. LOUIS, Mo. May 2.—These St. Louis pitchers, apparently, are taking turns in coming to life. Just when the "Wise Guys" are about ready to count to over some member of the Browns' hurling forces, that individual makes a motion like a real top-liner and gets away with it.

The latest of this flock is George Baumgardner, the youthful mountaineer of West Virginia, who seemed ticketed for the trail of the lonesome pine. In that proved a continuation of his poor pitching performances. George has followed Carl Westman, Earl Hamilton, Roy Mitchell and Dwight Stone in making things look bad for the Browns. The Cardinals' tall southpaw got off well in the Cardinal series and went along winning three games in the American league campaign before being cramped by the Naps in Cleveland.

A Little Sport; A Little Gossip

Bert King, outfielder of the Topeka Western, has been in a claim of \$100 against the Topeka management. King got \$275 a month for his work, and now that he is out of the city, he is claiming \$100 if he is hit over 25. King's average for the season was .233. The National commission has decided that King had no agreement for the bonus with Greer.

Luther McCarty has accepted the articles which he was offered by Tommy Burns for a 19 round bout with Arthur Pelky, at Calgary, Alberta, on Saturday, May 24. Burns received the answer by telegraph. Pelky will meet Carl Morris, at Calgary, on May 15.

A Waigast arises to remark that he will come back, demonstrating that boxing is an incurable disease.

Arrangements have tentatively been made for a 10 round bout between Eddie McGorry and Frank Klau, to be held at the Denver Athletic club in the near future. The weight will be 160 pounds. McGorry received an offer from Butte, Montana, to meet Jack Dillon there, but the induc-



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EL PASO MAY GET TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Racket Wielders Will Make Strong Play for Championship at Douglas Meet.

EL PASO, because of its central location, may get the Southwestern tennis tournament again next year. El Paso held the tournament last year and Albuquerque, Globe, and Deming will make a fight for it at the Douglas meet to be held the end of this month.

A special Pullman will leave El Paso on the Southwestern on May 29 at 10 p. m. There will be representatives from the El Paso Country club, the Grand Rapids, Mich., Deacon Ellis having made a dicker with Comiskey for him.

It is possible that the name of the association, the Southwestern Tennis association, may be changed, as there is already an association of that name, comprising Arkansas, Texas, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada and Arizona.

Robert Wren, president of the national association, has assured the members that if they change the name they can become members of the national association. He suggests the name, Border States Tennis association.

El Paso is going to make a fight for the championship honors and will have a good representation at the Douglas meet. Last Sunday, at the El Paso Country club, the El Paso club defeated Los Angeles in the doubles. E. Fuller and Austin Gill, of Los Angeles, defeated Hal Christie and J. P. Williams, 6-3 and 6-2. Then E. Fuller and Gist Russell defeated E. P. Merrill and P. Fuller, 10-8 and 6-2. In the final, Neff and Russell defeated E. Fuller and Austin Gill, 6-3 and 6-2.

JUAREZ AUTO RACES TO BE SAFEGUARDED

Officials For the Meet Have Been Selected and Entries Are Being Arranged.

Low Gasser, promoter of the Juarez races for May 25, has selected as officials, men well known in business circles of the city. Following is the list: Judges—Jas. Prim, manager American National bank; Burt Orndorff, president of the Hotel company; Art Wood, manager Cactus club.

Starters—J. Frank Coles, Jas. L. Marr, real estate dealers; Wm. McCoy, manager Hotel McCoy.

"Entries are coming in so fast I don't know how we will take care of them all the afternoon," declared Mr. Gasser today.

The numbers of the machines in the races will coincide with the position of the machines in each race. These numbers will be drawn publicly some time before the date of the races, so that crooked men will assist the public in keeping accurate track of events as they are pulled off.

Ample police protection is to be provided at the races. Mexican police and Americans specially commissioned will be stationed at different points around the track to keep spectators off. Even the mechanics will probably be kept off and the cars will be in charge of the drivers after they go out of the paddock.

There will be a band concert before the starting of the races and music will be one of the features between races.

The list of entrants has not been made up, but several cars are to be seen in the various races that have not been seen on the track before. Ray Harrell is figuring on entering a machine, and efforts are being made to get Dr. H. B. Stevenson's National "40" car in the 50-mile race. John Hutchins is to drive a Packard, and Billy Adolph will probably have "Betsy" in again.

LAJOIE TO REMAIN AT KEYSTONE SACK

Manager Birmingham of the Naps Says Star Batter Will Not Be Shifted to First Base.

Cleveland, O., May 2.—Whatever else happens, Nap Lajoie is not going to be shifted to first base. Manager Birmingham says so. He is not only satisfied with the big Frenchman at second, but he doesn't want to see him in any other position.

For several years there has been talk about shifting Larry to first, the argument being made that not so much speed of foot is needed at first as at second.

Birmingham does not agree to this. On the contrary, he insists that the first baseman, who must make innumerable short runs to the bag, is more likely to lose his speed than the other infielders.

But Birmingham's big reason for not moving the king is that he is the master of all second basemen at tagging the base runner.

In addition the Nap team play is built around Larry. For years the Naps have looked to Larry to direct their movements on defense. The second baseman is the logical player to do the work, and Larry knows how to do it. That's a fine reason why Larry is not going to first base.

Umpire Johnstone, Once a Star Pitcher

Arbiter in the American Association Played for Comiskey's St. Paul Team Before American League Was Organized.

By THOS. S. ANDREWS

JIM JOHNSTONE, who left the National league umpire staff because he could not work in harmony with president Tom Lynch, and who has been making such a hit in the American association this season, became a pitcher in the American league through the pushing tactics of Ban Johnson, the late Matt Kililea, Comiskey and Charlie Somers, there was a youngster, a husky one, pitching for the same "Commy." It was Jim Johnstone and he was twirling some swell games those days, for the pitchers had to deliver for Comiskey, as he carried only a small staff then. He went along nicely, but later was shifted to the Grand Rapids, Mich., Deacon Ellis having made a dicker with Comiskey for him.

After working for the season for quite a time, Johnstone joined the New York team in the Eastern league and later drifted to the Pacific coast, where the playing season extended to eight months instead of four and a half and five was the case those days. While on the coast Jim was taken down with malaria and from a strapping young man of 200 pounds he was reduced to 130 pounds and thought it was all over with him, but the flowers of the Eastern league and the warm climate finally began to benefit him and he gained slowly. He was too weak to get into the game and pitch any, but one day it was suggested that he might help himself by umpiring a bit.

Jim thought over the matter and wondered how he would fare against some of the rough ones if he made a rotten decision, but finally he decided to take a chance and he did. He umpired a game for two teams and got through so well that he was offered a job. With his daily exercise came back his strength and it was not long before he was back to his old form. His umpiring had been a success. He received offers from managers to get back into the harness again as pitcher, but after thinking the matter over he determined to stick to the indicator. He soon had an offer from the big league for him.

and remained there for a number of years, the break coming with president Lynch last fall.

"It might have been my luck to become a \$10,000 pitcher," said Jim while talking shop one night, "but I guess I am just as well off as one of the umpire brigade. For I will last longer this way."

SANTA RITA WILL PLAY SILVER CITY TEAM ON MAY 11

Silver City, N. M., May 2.—While the Hurley Concentrators are engaging the El Paso Mavericks, Santa Rita will meet the local team Sunday afternoon, May 11. This is the first time the miners have engaged the locals and a hot game is expected. Silver City has won one game out of six from the El Paso club, while Santa Rita has had an even break with the Mavericks.

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